(b) and (c) The proposal for upgradation of Mandvi-Nalia-Narayan Sarovar Highway into National Highway would be considered alongwith similar proposals received from other State Governments after the finalisation of the 10th Five Year Plan and availability of funds, keeping in view the revised criteria for declaration of new National Highways, traffic needs and *inter-se* priority.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Export price for coir 3791. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to phase out Minimum Export Price (MEP) for coir;

(b) if so, reasons therefore;

(c) whether small sector and workers have opposed gradual withdrawal of MEP; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to ensure that withdrawal of Minimum Export Price does not have an adverse impact on coir export?

ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to remove all restrictions in promoting exports of coir and coir products, the Minimum Export Price (MEP) regime has been withdrawn.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Promotional efforts like market development through participation in exhibitions/fairs abroad, Study tours, Buyer-Sellers

meets etc. are carried out by the Coir Board to promote exports of coir and coir products. In addition, the External Marketing Assistance is provided to the exporters. Moreover, Research & Development (R&D) efforts for product development, product diversification and quality improvement have also been taken up to make coir products competitive in terms of quality and prices.

Assessment of PMRY

†3792. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made with regards to Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for not assessing the same and by when it is likely to be assessed; and

(d) the percentage of recovery of loans under this scheme?

ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The second round of evaluation of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the programme years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 was conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR), New Delhi in the year 2000-01 in 13 districts of five States—Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Punjab and Rajasthan covering 16,397 beneficiaries. The final report of the evaluation has recently been

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.